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Letter dated 2 April 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter dated 2 April 1991 addressed to you by His Excellency Osman Ertuğ, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mustafa AKŞIN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 2 April 1991 from Mr. Osman Ertuğ to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 19 March 1991 addressed to you by Mr. Andreas Mavrommatis, Representative of the Greek Cypriots at the United Nations, which has been circulated as document A/46/118-S/22363, and to enclose herewith the text of the resolution adopted by the Parliament of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus concerning the decision taken by the European Parliament on 14 March 1991 on the Cyprus question (see appendix).

I should be grateful if this letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Osman ERTUĞ
Representative of the
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

APPENDIX

Resolution adopted by the Parliament of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus declaring the decision taken by the European Parliament on 14 March 1991 on the Cyprus question as invalid

The Parliament of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus declares the following in connection with the one-sided decision which the European Parliament took on 14 March 1991 on the Cyprus question at the instigation of a minority comprising its Greek and pro-Greek Cypriot members.

1. This decision, which was taken without hearing the Turkish Cypriot people who have an equal political and legal status and a distinct national, cultural and religious identity in Cyprus, impairs the respectability of the European Parliament.

2. This decision, disregarding the fact that the Cyprus question which has been continuing for the last 28 years can, as also reiterated in Security Council resolution 649 (1990), only be solved with the free will and consent of the two communities, completely ignores the fundamental rights of the Turkish Cypriot people and casts a shadow upon international legitimacy, principles of rule of law and justice.

3. It reminds the European Parliament that the two politically equal communities in Cyprus, established in 1960 a partnership State in which the sovereignty was jointly exercised; that this State was destroyed as a result of the Turkish Cypriot partner being thrown out of all the organs of the partnership State by the Greek Cypriot partner through the use of force in 1963; that the international community kept silent during the threats and attacks to which Turkish Cypriots were subjected during the years 1963-1974; and that the Turkish intervention of 1974 under the 1960 Treaty of Guarantee which was at the same time an attempt to protect human rights, prevented the annexation of Cyprus to Greece and brought about the peace and stability that has been prevailing on the island since then.

4. This decision, which was taken by the European Parliament as a result of the efforts of the Greek and pro-Greek Cypriot members to make the European Communities, which includes Greece as well, an intervening party to the Cyprus question, to which it is not a party, on the one hand, deepens the separation in Cyprus and on the other hand adversely affects the current efforts of the United Nations Secretary-General in search of a bi-communal and bi-zonal solution, within the framework of resolution 649 (1990), to which the Turkish Cypriot side is contributing in a positive and constructive way.

5. It invites the European Parliament to give, before everything else, equal right of say to the Turkish Cypriot side; not to remain silent before the discriminatory practices and violations of human rights which Greek Cypriots and some third parties deem fit to inflict upon the Turkish Cypriot people in the fields of transportation, communication, sports, cultural contacts, tourism and trade, in violation of the fundamental principles of the Helsinki Final Act and the Charter of Paris; and to exert efforts for bringing them to an end.

6. In view of the above, it declares that decisions of the European Parliament, in which the Turkish Cypriot side has not participated on equal bases with the Greek Cypriot side cannot have any legal validity. Neither can the European Parliament contribute in a positive and constructive way to the Cyprus question with such decisions the application of which is not possible.